

Models of Water Plan Advisory Committees from other States

Name of State/Government:	State of Texas: “ <i>Water for Texas</i> ” – 2002 State Water Plan http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/publications/reports/State_Water_Plan/2002/FinalWaterPlan2002.htm
Mandate/Authorization of Plan:	The Texas Water Development Board is required by legislative statute (Section 16.051 of the Texas Water Code) to prepare, develop, formulate, and adopt a comprehensive State Water Plan that incorporates regional water plans
Decision Process:	<p>The Final Plan is approved and adopted by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB).</p> <p>The TWDB initiated the regional water planning process by developing and publishing draft rules for regional and State water planning, along with related amendments to the TWDB Research and Planning Fund rules. After extensive consultation with other State agencies, stakeholders, and the public, the rules were revised and then adopted by the TWDB in February 1998. The rules describe the required elements in the regional and State plans, the composition of Planning Groups, and guidelines for financial assistance from the TWDB.</p>
Public Planning Body Structure:	<p>An 83-member Stakeholder Advisory Group representing persons from across the State represented a broad array of those interested in water, including Planning Group members, cities and other political subdivisions, agriculture, utilities, environmental and other interest groups, and State agencies. They were charged with identifying policy issues and recommending policy changes, if any, to improve the likelihood (including reducing impediments) of, and assist in implementing the regional water plans. This group met in a public forum 5 times as a large body and approximately 15 times in smaller roundtables with other persons interested in specific policy issues.</p> <p>16 Regional Water Planning Groups, initially appointed by the TWDB under the authority of Senate Bill 1, eventually included approximately 450 representatives having a broad array of interests, including 11 interest group categories specifically required by statute. They worked for more than 3 years to develop their 16 regional plans. Nearly 900 public meetings across the State were held by the Planning Groups as they developed the 16 regional water plans.</p> <p>As required by Senate Bill 1, the TWDB selected the initial members of the Planning Groups. These members were selected from 11 interests identified in Senate Bill 1 and other relevant interests in the regional water planning areas. Senate Bill 1 required that interests including but not limited to public, counties, municipalities, industries, agricultural interests, environmental interests, small businesses, electric-generating utilities, river authorities, water districts, and water utilities be represented. The initial coordinating bodies then added other members as appropriate, as they transitioned into Planning Groups.</p>
Regional Focus – how did they anticipate regional focus?	<p>In partial response to the problems identified in previous State Water Plans and the extensive drought of 1995-96, the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 1 in 1997, setting into motion an unprecedented, grassroots-based, regional water planning process.</p> <p>16 Regional Water Planning Groups developed 16 regional plans. The <i>2002 State Water Plan</i> incorporates the approved regional water plans. But to meet the statutory charge of being a policy guide, the Texas Water Development Board believes that it is necessary to highlight broad conclusions from the regional water plans, tie them together with some common threads, and link them to key policy issues. For the regional water plans and, by inference, the 2002 State Water Plan to be successfully implemented, these recommendations will require further legislative or regulatory action.</p>

Name of State/Government:	State of Nevada: <i>Nevada State Water Plan, 1999</i> http://water.nv.gov/Water%20planning/wat-plan/con-main.htm
Mandate/Authorization of Plan:	Development of the <i>Nevada State Water Plan</i> is required by legislative declaration of policy (Nevada Revised Statutes (540.101.)
Decision Process:	The 1999 <i>Nevada State Water Plan</i> was developed over a period of 4-1/2 years (between 1994 and 1999). The Nevada Division of Water Planning is the lead agency. The Governor and his staff provided executive sponsorship during plan development. The Division was assisted by the Advisory Board on Water Resources Planning and Development, staff from the various agencies of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and input from state, local and federal agencies and the public.
Public Planning Body Structure:	<p>To advise the Division of Water Planning in matters relating to planning and development of water resources, legislation establishes a governor-appointed Advisory Board on Water Resources Planning and Development (Advisory Board).</p> <p>The composition of the 15-member Advisory Board on Water Resources Planning and Development is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six members representing the governing bodies of the county with the largest population in the state [Clark County] and the cities in that county; • One member representing the largest water utility in the county with the largest population in the state [the Las Vegas Valley Water District]; • Two members representing the county with the second largest population in the state [Washoe County] and the cities in that county; • One member representing the largest water utility in the county with the second largest population in the state [Sierra Pacific Power Company]; • One member representing the general public; and • Four members, each representing a different one of the following interests: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Farming; 2. Mining; 3. Ranching; and 4. Wildlife. <p>Advisory Board meetings were publicly advertised and open to public comment, and occasionally the Advisory Board held special workshops to solicit public comment in a more formal setting.</p>
Regional Focus – how did they anticipate regional focus?	The governor makes appointments so that at least seven members are residents of Clark County, three members are residents of Washoe County and at least three members are residents of counties which have a population less than 100,000.

Name of State/Government:	State of Utah: Utah State Water Plan, May 2001 http://www.water.utah.gov/waterplan/
Mandate/Authorization of Plan:	The Utah Division of Water Resources is the water resources authority for the state of Utah. The Board of Water Resources is the policy-making body of the division. The Water Plan Update includes a statewide water plan and 11 individual water plan for each of the state's major hydrologic river basins.
Decision Process:	The Utah Board of Water Resources approves the document, produced by the Division of Water Resources staff.
Public Planning Body Structure:	Not explicit in the plan.
Regional Focus – how did they anticipate regional focus?	Individual water plans for each of the state's 11 hydrologic river basins.

Name of State/Government:	State of Iowa: <i>Iowa Water Monitoring Plan 2000</i> http://wqm.igsb.uiowa.edu/publications/plan2000.htm
Mandate/ Authorization of Plan:	Chapter 455B of the Code of Iowa designates the Iowa Department of Natural Resources as the state agency responsible for management of the water resources in Iowa. The federal Clean Water Act requires states to conduct water quality monitoring (Section 106) and to report, every other year, on the degree to which state surface waters meet federally approved water quality standards (Section 305(b)). These requirements have been the basis for the routine water quality monitoring efforts conducted historically and currently in the state of Iowa.
Decision Process:	The Iowa Department of Natural Resources takes full responsibility for this plan.
Public Planning Body Structure:	It is a comprehensive water monitoring plan that includes all surface water and groundwater resources. The plan actively involved stakeholders and professionals outside the Department from the beginning. A 63-member Water Monitoring Advisory Task Force was formed to provide the Department of Natural Resources with priorities for monitoring based on diverse, public needs. The process developed a consensus on the goals and monitoring program elements and provided an aggressive approach to water quality monitoring in the state.
Regional Focus – how did they anticipate regional focus?	Not specified.

Name of State/Government:	State of Wyoming, <i>Wyoming State Water Plan, 2001-2003</i> http://waterplan.state.wy.us/
Mandate/ Authorization of Plan:	In 1996, the Wyoming Legislature directed the Wyoming Water Development Commission (WWDC) and the State Engineer's Office (SEO) to prepare a proposal for updating the 1973 Wyoming Framework Water Plan. Three agencies (WWDC, SEO and the Water Resources Data System at the University of Wyoming) make up the state water planning team, which have completed 7 River Basin Plans for the State Water Plan between 2001 and 2003.
Decision Process:	The Wyoming Water Development Commission (WWDC) has authorization to create the River Basin Plans. The River Basin Plans are approved by the Legislature.
Public Planning Body Structure:	<p>7 Basin Advisory Groups represent a cross section of the basin water users groups - agriculture, local government (municipal water, county or Joint Powers Board), recreation, industry, environmental. Selections were ideally made at the discretion of the basin citizenry. Basin Advisory Groups usually had 15 members. State and federal governmental agencies such as DEQ, SEO, WWDC, USGS, or NRCS, along with local representatives from land management agencies such as BLM, Forest Service, and Fish and Wildlife (refuges) may serve as a Technical Resource Team.</p> <p>Functions and goals of the Basin Advisory Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Basin Advisory Group assists the planning team in the identification and prioritization of water issues in the Basin. • The Basin Advisory Group reviews and comments on the work products relating to basin plan, whether generated by agencies or consultants. • The Basin Advisory Group provides a local reality check for review of state water policies and management options. • The Basin Advisory Group operates under a set of rules and requirements established by the group itself with guidance from the facilitator. This may include stipulations on voting, reaching consensus, going outside the group with publicity, etc. While the facilitator assists and gives some guidance, it is important that the rules be generated by the group and accepted by consensus.
Regional Focus	7 River Basin Plans were developed with input from the regional Basin Advisory Groups.

Name of State/Government:	State of Kansas: <i>Kansas State Water Plan</i> http://www.kwo.org/KWP/KWP.htm
Mandate/ Authorization of Plan:	The Kansas Water Office is the water planning agency for the state, responsible for compiling the Plan. The Kansas Department of Agriculture, State Geological Survey, the Division of Environment of the Department of Health and Environment, Department of Wildlife and Parks, State Conservation Commission and “other interested state agencies” are designated by statute to work with the Water Office in formulation of the Kansas Water Plan. (K.S.A. 82a-903).
Decision Process:	The Kansas Water Authority approves the Kansas Water Plan. Once approved, the Kansas Water Authority submits these recommendations to the Governor and Legislature for their consideration.
Public Planning Body Structure:	<p>The <i>Kansas Water Plan</i> is formulated through a planning process, which emphasizes public participation through basin advisory committees, public meetings and public hearings.</p> <p>The 24-member Kansas Water Authority (KWA) has a high degree of control over the water planning process. It is comprised of 13 private citizen members and eleven ex officio members, appointed by and representing various interests. At any point, if it determines additional study is warranted, it can defer action on any issue. The KWA does not take final action to approve new ideas and recommendations until it is satisfied that the public has spoken. The Governor and Kansas Legislature generally heeds the KWA’s advice in the appropriation process. Final budgets generally have been consistent with the KWA’s recommendation.</p> <p>12 Basin Advisory Committees (BACs), one in each of the State’s 12 basin planning areas, provide the Kansas Water Office and Authority advice on issues of local concern. Identifying issues in each basin and forwarding a basin plan to the KWA is one of its primary responsibilities. Each BAC consists of twelve members, representing various water user categories. BACs can be described as standing committees, given that they are authorized by the Water Authority and meet on a regular basis.</p> <p>Issue specific Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) have also been formed on an ad hoc basis for gathering input on policy and basin issues. TACs are formed by the Water Office and the TAC members are selected based on their expertise or experience on a specific issue being studied or developed.</p> <p>More recently, ad hoc Stakeholder Groups have been created to have input into the development of policies that may potentially impact them either directly or indirectly. As with TACs, they are comprised of individuals with specific expertise and interest in the issue at hand.</p>
Regional Focus – how did they anticipate regional focus?	12 Basin Advisory Committees represent 12 basin planning areas.

Name of State/Government:	State of Pennsylvania: <i>Pennsylvania State Water Plan</i> http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/act220/default.htm
Mandate/ Authorization of Plan:	State legislation, the Water Resources Planning Act (Act 220 of 2002), calls for the State Water Plan to be updated by March 2008, and updated every 5 years thereafter.
Decision Process:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation requires the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to complete an update of the State Water Plan in five years and have updates every five years thereafter. • A Statewide Committee will guide the development of, approve, and recommend to the Secretary of DEP the approval and adoption of the State Water Plan. • Through an open public process, regional committees will recommend the regional plan components to the Statewide Committee for incorporation into the State Water Plan.
Public Planning Body Structure:	<p>A Statewide Water Resources Committee (Statewide Committee) was formed to help guide the development of the State Water Plan through a collaborative process. 6 members are appointed by the legislative Senate and House leadership as representatives from Regional Water Resources Committees, 12 are appointed by the Governor to represent specified interests, 13 ex-officio members represent government agencies and commissions.</p> <p>Six 20-25 member Regional Water Resources Committees, made up of representatives of business, agriculture, local government and environmental interests, were also created to facilitate the development of the regional components of the State Water Plan.</p> <p>Among their responsibilities, the Statewide Committee is to assist the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), in cooperation with the regional committees, to develop a public participation process to ensure that the public has adequate opportunities to provide input into the creation of the new State Water Plan. The regional committees will take public comment and create and recommend regional waters to the Statewide Committee.</p>
Regional Focus – how did they anticipate regional focus?	6 Regional Water Resources Committees guide the development of and recommend to the Statewide Committee the Regional Plan component for review and incorporation into the State Water Plan. Public meetings will be held in each of the 6 regional planning areas to better define local resource problems and opportunities.